

SENATE JUDICIARY

Exhibit No. 32

Date: 3/26/15

Bill No. HB477

In Support of Death With Dignity

Against HB477

Mr. Chairman and members of the 2015 Senate Judiciary Committee:

My name is Mary Douglass. I am a resident of Helena, MT. I have been a Registered Nurse for well over half a century. During my long career I have been at the side of many people as they faced the end of their lives. Many of them died peacefully but all too many of them died in pain, slowly wasting away, with physicians unable to completely relieve the pain. Now, at 80 years of age, I find myself nearing the end of my own life. I do not yet know how it will come but I wish when it does come to have good choices. I strongly believe one of our unalienable rights is to end our life in peace and dignity. I do not wish to force my personal beliefs on anyone, but also I do not want anyone to take away my right to die with dignity. The relationship between physician and patient is sacred and the government has no business inserting itself into those private conversations. I urge you not to support any bill that would take away my right or the right of my physician to help me in the way I wish to be helped in the end. I strongly urge you to vote against HB477.

Thank you,

Mary Douglass, RN, MSN
Helena, MT